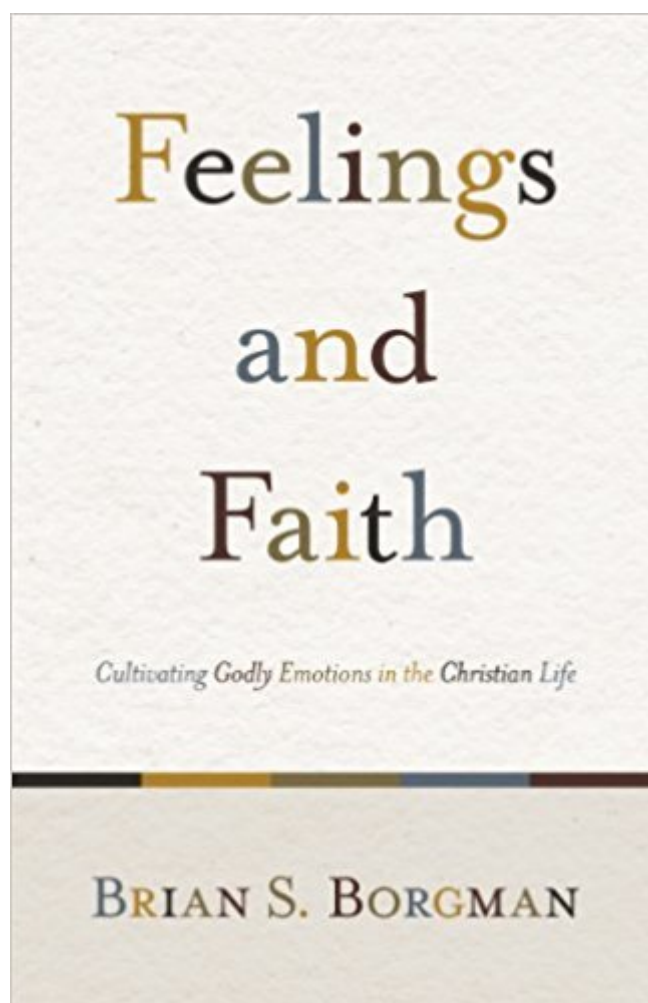


The book was found

Feelings And Faith: Cultivating Godly Emotions In The Christian Life



Synopsis

Weaves together biblical exposition and practical application to demonstrate how emotions relate to the Christian life. Emotions are a vital part of what it means to be a human being made in the image of God and redeemed in Jesus Christ. But often our emotions confuse and mislead us. So what is the proper place for emotions in a Christian's walk of faith? In *Feelings and Faith* Brian Borgman draws from his extensive biblical knowledge and his pastoral experience to help readers understand both divine and human emotions. After laying a biblical foundation he moves on to practical application, focusing on how Christians can put to death ungodly emotional displays and also cultivate godly emotions. This biblically informed, practical volume is helpful for pastors, counselors, and serious-minded Christians who wish to develop a full-orbed faith that encompasses their emotional life.

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Customer Reviews

"Brian Borgman has written a wonderfully Christ-centered and God-glorifying book about how, by God's grace, to restore your emotions to God's image. *Feelings and Faith* paints a biblically accurate picture of, as the Puritan pastors expressed it, 'holy emotions.' It does not dismiss emotions as some do nor does it worship emotions as some do. This is an important book and I highly recommend it." — Martha Peace, biblical counselor; author, *The Excellent Wife* "Here is a readable but comprehensive study that unites in biblical friendship the Christian's theology and experience. With the heart of a pastor, Brain Borgman offers an emotional life line that

will stabilize your heart and support your faith. Faith and Feelings needs to be in your personal library. I will return to it time and again-so will you!"

—â •Jani Ortlund,Ã Â speaker, Renewal Ministries; author, Fearlessly Feminine and His Loving Law, Our Lasting Legacy"As Christians, who hasn't been confused about the relationship between our faith and our feelings? Are feelings an incredibly important part of your faith, giving you heart-felt ways to express love to God and others, or are they actually to be jettisoned from your faith, being perceived as something dangerous in your relationship to Christ? In this immensely profitable book, Brian Borgman, a very sure-footed guide to this topic, biblically and precisely explains the concept of emotion and how it is to be integrated into one's walk with the Lord. I know of no other book quite like it. All at once, it is Scriptural, wise, clear, pastoral, transparent, and compelling. This is a great resource for instance, for a pastor who desires help in skillfully shepherding his sheep. It is also a wonderful help for a discipler and/or counselor who wants to instruct his disciples and counselees with their fears, worries, and anxieties. Even further, the principles in this work should prove to be of real, lasting value to any believer in Jesus who earnestly yearns to first grasp and then harness his or her own emotions within the context of a sensate culture that is quickly careening out of emotional control. For all who read this book, we should genuinely applaud Pastor Borgman's diligent efforts in now bringing us the most helpful volume available on the subject of Faith and Feelings."

—â •Lance Quinn,Ã Â Senior Pastor, Thousand Oaks Bible Church, Thousand Oaks, California"Brian Borgman has done a lot of work on this crucial topic and it really shows. Emotion is one of the least understood topics in our Bible studies and churches and this is a strong contribution to the discussion. I am thankful to have read Feelings and Faith and know others will also benefit from it. It has been a privilege to get to know Brian and his pastor's heart for God's people, which shines through clearly on these pages."

—â •Matthew Elliott, Author, Feel: The Power of Listening to Your Heart; Faithful Feelings: Rethinking Emotion in the New Testament"Martyn Lloyd-Jones taught us that if we see truth clearly, we must feel it. Authentic faith in the supreme, indomitable goodness of God in sending Jesus Christ as our substitute and redeemer necessarily transforms our feelings. The Holy Spirit awakens earnest love for others from a pure heart (I Peter 1:22), joyful acceptance of loss (Heb. 10:34), and cheerful generosity (II Cor. 9:7). Pastor Brian Borgman's Feelings and Faith stands in the great tradition of Desiring God by John Piper and Spiritual Depression by Martyn Lloyd-Jones. Borgman clearly sets forth the foundational role of truth, unpacks a robust theology of Christian experience, and provides examples of how to mortify sinful emotions and cultivate godly ones. I highly recommend this book."

—â •Alex Chediak, Associate Professor of Engineering and Physics, California Baptist University; Author, With One Voice

Brian S. Borgman (DMin, Westminster Seminary California) is the founding pastor of Grace Community Church in Minden, Nevada. He is the author of *My Heart for Thy Cause*. He and his wife have three children and live in northwestern Nevada.

The author's target audience is the everyday Christian. Borgman penned, "I have tried to write so that a layman could absorb it with profit . . . God's people need to be grounded in his Word, so this book is for those who want to explore what God's Word has to say about the emotions and how those truths apply to our lives. This will require some work." (Page 14) This is a well-written and biblically substantive book on the subject matter of emotions and the role they play in a person's life. Throughout each chapter, the author presents questions for the reader to personally ponder and apply to his or her life. I really appreciated the fact that Borgman sought to lead the reader into the Scriptures with the aim of "practical theology" that "will require some work" on the reader's behalf (Page 14). One example where the author integrates a biblical truth and applies it to the reader's situation can be found in Chapter 8, "An Introduction to Mortifying Ungodly Emotions." Borgman states after the reader has done an "honest evaluation" (Pages 97 - 99), he needs to move toward "Confession and Repentance. . . The second basic step, after we have identified the ungodly emotion such as bitterness, anger, or fear, is to be quick to own it and confess it to the Lord without excuse. Proverbs 28:13 teaches us, "Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy." The mercy comes when we own our sin, stop concealing it or excusing it, and take full responsibility for it. When we do that, the mercy pipe is unobstructed, and we are in a place to receive not only forgiveness (1 John 1:9) but also the grace to change." (Page 99) I found this book to be very readable and challenging for the layperson. To the person wanting to make the most of this resource, it will require work and digging deeper into the passages used throughout the book. Borgman handles the Scriptures very well.

For far too long the church has lived on two sides of a gap. On one side are those that claim "truth" as core and good feelings are solely a by product of following truth. On the other side are those that claim "feeling" God is the most important and we need to focus on experiences that keep us feeling God. Borgman does the best job I have seen at dismissing both sides as in error to God's Word and demonstrating what scripture has to say on the topic - we are a blend of thought and emotions as designed by God. Thus, just as much as God is redeeming our thinking through Jesus, so must our emotions be redeemable through Jesus. Neither is jettisoned in Christ and neither is outside the

reach of the cross. Therefore, Borgman highlights how emotions can be cultivated in Christ (as this one is the most often ignored) in conjunction with the truth of God's Word changing our thinking. It's a thought provoking guide through scripture that can help one see the necessity of both as we become more like Christ.

I am extremely cautious when it comes to books, (or any form of media), that claim to have a biblical perspective on the emotions. After much research on the author, I bought the ebook. I was so impressed I bought two hard copies and downloaded the study guides from Pastor Borgman's church website, and am currently doing the study with a sister in Christ. There are many wonderful aspects to this book; however, the one that stands above all others, is Pastor Borgman's commitment to establishing who God is, and what He must be in our lives, if any real sanctification is to take place. In other words, God was glorified in Pastor Borgman's biblical understanding and presentation of God's holy Word. If you are ready to walk the biblical path of emotional sanctification, this is a sure guide for your journey.

The thesis of Jonathan Edwards' landmark work, *Religious Affections* is clear: "True religion, in great part, consists in holy affections." This reality was embraced by the Reformers and the English Puritans. Our forefathers not only stressed the importance of theology; they stressed the necessity of holy affections, to borrow Edwards phrase. Tragically, however a shift has taken place in the evangelical world. Emotionalism is sweeping through the church and in some circles a mystical approach to the Christian life is becoming readily accepted. This preoccupation with the mystical at best minimizes theology and at worst, mocks the very notion of theological truth. And some at the other end of the spectrum have embraced a dry form of rationalism - one where intellectual pursuit marginalizes any thing that resembles true God-centered emotion. *Feelings and Faith: Cultivating Godly Emotions in the Christian Life* by Brian Borgman bridges the gap between both kinds of erroneous thinking described above. The book contains four parts: Part One - A Biblical Theological Foundation for Understanding Our Emotions Part Two - Biblical Sanctification and Our Emotions Part Three - Mortifying Ungodly Emotions Part Four - Cultivating Godly Emotions Borgman's work is Bible saturated and in touch with daily life. He promotes a Christ-saturated theological framework that results in holy affections to the glory of God. He writes like a Puritan with contemporary illustrations that draw readers in. Jonathan Edwards, John Owen, and John Bunyan would be proud of their student that they tutored from afar! *Feelings and Faith: Cultivating Godly Emotions in the Christian Life* should be read and re-read by Christians who are serious about cultivating a doctrinally rich

framework that leads to communion with God.

A reasonably thorough assessment of the role of emotions in the life of a believer. Emotions are an integral part of a relationship with God as we should be worshiping and serving with heart as well as mind. This book provides a way back from much current theology which avoids the role emotions. Recommend this book for all who are serious about their faith.

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